

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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UNCLAS GENEVA 2030

DEPT PASS LABOR FOR HOROWITZ, QUACKENBUSH, AVERY & LINSENMAYER

COMMERCE FOR UPTON

US POSTAL SERVICE FOR ASST POSTMASTER GILDEA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ILO
SUBJECT: ILO: JOINT MEETING ON CONDITIONS OF WORK IN POSTAL AND
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, MARCH 8-16, 1977

1. THE ONLY POLITICALLY NOTEWORTHY DEVELOPMENT AT
SUBJECT MEETING WAS THE WITHDRAWAL ON THE FIRST DAY
OF THE HUNGARIAN REP AS A CANDIDATE FOR CHAIRMAN OF
THE GOVERNMENT GROUP. THE HUNGARIAN HAD EXPRESSED
INTEREST IN THE POSITION AND APPARENTLY CHANGED HIS
MIND AFTER A CONFERENCE WITH THE SOVIET DELEGATION.
THE MAJOR POINTS OF THE MEETING'S CONCLUSIONS CONFORMED
TO U.S. OBJECTIVES. A DRAFT PAPER INTRODUCED BY THE
U.S. DELEGATION FORMED THE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION IN THE
DRAFTING COMMITTEE; ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT GROUP,
USDEL ALSO NEGOTIATED WITH WORKER REPS THE MOST DIFFICULT
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POINTS IN THE MEETING (E.G., THE NATURE AND
TIMING OF CONSULTATION BETWEEN UNIONS AND MANAGEMENT
ON THE INTRODUCTION OF TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES, AND
WHETHER PTT PERSONNEL SHOULD HAVE THE SOLE RIGHT TO
INSTALL NEW EQUIPMENT).

2. THE MAJOR AREAS COVERED IN THE MEETING'S CONCLUSIONS

WERE GENERAL PRINCIPLES, PLANNING AND PARTICIPATION;
JOB SECURITY; HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY; WORK
ORGANIZATION AND JOB SATISFACTION; AND TRAINING,
RETRAINING AND CAREER. TEXT OF KEY PARAS ON CONSULTATION
FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

5. MAJOR TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE SHOULD BE INTRODUCED AS PART OF AN
OVER-ALL DEVELOPMENT PLAN WITH CONTINUOUS CONSULTATION DURING THE
IMPLEMENTATION STAGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN
PARAGRAPH 2.

6. TO FACILITATE THE INTRODUCTION OF MAJOR TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE
AND TO ENABLE EMPLOYEES TO EXERT AN INFLUENCE IN THIS RESPECT, THEIR
REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD BE CONSULTED AND EMPLOYEES INFORMED, AT THE
PREPARATORY STAGE, REGARDING PROPOSALS AND THEIR EFFECTS. IN THIS
REGARD, ON-GOING CONSULTATIONS SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT ALL APPROPRIATE
LEVELS AND ON ALL RELEVANT ASPECTS OF CHANGE AND THEY SHOULD BE
BASED ON EQUAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION.

7. THE ARRANGEMENTS AND PROCEDURES TO BE USED IN CONSULTATIONS
SHOULD BE AGREED BETWEEN THE PARTIES AND MAY INVOLVE THE USE OF
SPECIAL COMMITTEES IF NECESSARY. THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF ANY SUCH PRO-
CEDURE SHOULD BE TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR REGULAR AND CON-
TINUING DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS ARISING FROM TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE.

END TEXT.

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3. TEXT OF PARA 1A (GENERAL PRINCIPLES) AS AMENDED IN
PLENARY SESSION MARCH 16, FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:

(A) TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF THE EFFECT MECHANISATION AND
TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES HAVE ON THE FINANCING OF SERVICES
AND THE USAGE COSTS BORNE BY THE PUBLIC. END TEXT.

4. MISSION COMMENT: EFFECTIVE CORRIDOR WORK DURING
THE WEEK-END BY USDEL BROKE DEADLOCK BETWEEN WORKERS
GROUP AND CERTAIN GOVERNMENT REPS (NOTABLY CANADA AND
THE UK). USDEL THEN INTRODUCED ITS DRAFT CONCLUSIONS
AND LED THE DISCUSSION IN THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE WHICH
PRODUCED THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS. THE DOMINANT U.S.
ROLE IN THE MEETING SUGGESTS THAT ALTHOUGH THE U.S.
MAY BE MORE ADVANCED THAN MOST COUNTRIES IN THE PTT
AREA, OUR EXPERIENCE IS APPLICABLE INTERNATIONALLY.
THE TECHNICAL NATURE OF THE CONCLUSIONS ALSO RULES
OUT ANY DEFERENCE TO U.S. VIEWS BECAUSE OF THE U.S.
NOTICE OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW FROM ILO. SORENSON

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